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STATINTL

In Soviet Prison Francis Powers Marks Anniversary of Trial

MOSCOW (UPI)—Francis Gary Powers went on trial in Moscow exactly one year ago today on charges by the U.S.S.R. that he committed espionage by flying over Russia in a U2 plane May 1, 1960.

Today, the American pilot marked his 32nd birthday and the anniversary of the start of the trial by making envelopes in relatively modern Vladimir Prison 150 miles east of this capital.

Vladimir Prison, along the

Trans-Siberian Railroad tracks where Russian prisoners once marched east with heavy iron balls chained to their ankles, can not be called a "showcase."

But it gives the former \$30,000-a-year U2 flier comforts that few other Soviet prisoners enjoy.

The Reds turned Vladimir into their "showcase" jail many years ago and filled its cells with top political prisoners and captured Nazi field marshals.

Powers is allowed to correspond with and receive gift packages from his wife, Barbara, 26, and his parents. Like the other prisoners, he has no radio or television, but the job of making envelopes is considered a privilege for which prisoners must receive permission.

Every 10 days, he gets fresh underwear, a shower, linen and a shave. He can supplement his prison diet with purchases at the commissary. There is no prison chaplain. Inmates can take their personal problems to a political officer instead.

Repeated U.S. Embassy requests to see Powers have been refused.

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